

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/606,803
Amendment filed April 27, 2006
Reply to OA dated January 30, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph from page 12, line 14, to page 13, line 9, as follows:

When the culture dish became confluent with cells, the cells were exfoliated from the culture dish using a solution containing 0.05% EDTA and 0.125% trypsin. Subsequently, the cells were collected by a centrifugal separation and were then transferred to another culture dish, followed by successively culturing the cells using the above culture medium. After repeating a series of these steps, two kinds of cell lines (STIP-1 cells and STIP-3 cells) capable of being cultured for a long time were obtained. These cells are therefore of taxonomy: Animal cell, *Huso huso* X *Acipenser ruthenus* (Bester). In each of these cell lines to be cultured successively, cells were fixed in the culture dish without the need of coating the bottom surface of the culture dish with an extra cellular matrix such as collagen.

_____ In addition, the above two kinds of the established cell lines were deposited under the Budapest Treaty to National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology – International Patent Organism Depositary (IPOD), located at AIST Tsukuba Central 6, 1-1 Higashi 1-Chome, Tsukuba-shi, Ibaraki-ken, 305-8566 Japan, with the deposition No. FERM BP-8421 for the STIP-1 cells and No. FERM BP-8422 for the STIP-3 cells, respectively. At the time of this patent application, the number of passage cultures of the cell line STIP-1 exceeded 140 times, and the number of passage cultures of the cell line STIP-3 exceeded 80 times, repeatedly.